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### **Department of Information Technology Data Center Dedicated**

The state Department of Public Works (DPW) joined with Governor John G. Rowland and representatives from numerous other state agencies recently to celebrate the official dedication of the Department of Information Technology's new world class Data Center at 101 East River Drive in East Hartford.

The \$10 million data center project was accomplished at a record pace from the request for proposals (RFP) to final completion in only 16 months, said DPW project officials. IBM was the architect and the contractor for the project.

The project successfully moved the DOIT data center functions - without interruption - from its century-old 340 Capitol Avenue building to state-of-the-art space in the agency's consolidated headquarters in East Hartford.

Governor John G. Rowland cut the ribbon after touring the 25,000 square foot computer room and support space. He congratulated the staffs involved in the project and called it an "incredible journey." He stated the new information infrastructure is a huge leap in the state's efforts "to serve the customers – the taxpayers – better."

DOIT Chief Information Officer Rock Regan stressed the importance of this vast nerve center in keeping data secure, which is vital to homeland security.

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Virtually every state agency and all three branches of government store data at the site. Even more uses are being developed for the future that will involve linking over 1,000 schools, libraries and colleges; integrating criminal justice data for law enforcement; and connecting state and local public health departments for improved readiness to combat emerging health threats.

Meanwhile, the former DOIT space at 340 Capitol Avenue is being prepared for demolition. DPW recently received approval from the Bond Commission for funds to finance the work. According to DPW engineers, the Park River flows underneath part of the old building and over the course of the past century this has weakened the structure. Despite various engineering efforts made to ensure the security and safety of the building and its occupants, it was decided the only appropriate option would be to raze the building. DPW's Chief Deputy Commissioner P.J. Delahunty, Jr. reports the demolition will be completed this spring.

